The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under the scheme "National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme (NHARSS)" has been providing cranes and ambulances to States/ UTs/NGOs for relief and rescue measures in the aftermath of accidents by way of evacuating road accident victim to nearest medical aid centre and for clearing the accident site. National Highways Authority of India is also providing ambulances with the state of art equipments, deployed with qualified staff, at every 50 km on completed stretches of National Highways.

Maintenance of NHs

2867. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR:
Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India is preparing a clear policy for maintenance of existing roads during construction phase of four laning/six laning by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, what is the said policy;

(c) whether there is any complaints that some of the National Highways are not being maintained as per prescribed standard by the NHAI, particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Under NHDP wherever 4/6 laning works are under implementation, to keep the existing roads in traffic worthy condition, maintenance of existing roads are carried out by the Contractor/Concessionaire as part of their obligations under contract/concession agreement. Wherever 4/6 laning has not yet started, maintenance of existing roads are being carried out by NHAI directly or through State PWDs. Maintenance of completed National Highways is carried out by NHAI through Operation and Maintenance (O&M) contracts selected through national competitive bidding.

(c) and (d) National Highways under NHDP including the state of Maharashtra are being maintained in traffic worthy condition by NHAI depending on inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Declaration of new NHs in Maharashtra

2868. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Government has submitted a proposal for declaration of new National Highways; and

(b) if so, by when these National Highways are likely to be declared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposal for declaring

3 roads of Maharashtra as National Highways. At present, emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways.

Schemes from Chhattisgarh

†2869. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes sent by Chhattisgarh Government for approval;

(b) the number of schemes out of the above proposals to be implemented in naxalite affected areas and length and cost thereof; and

(c) the details of schemes that have been approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Government of Chhattisgarh has sent 5 proposals under Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Rs. 2280 crore, which are at feasibility study stage and 4 proposals for widening to 2 lanes with paved shoulder under National Highway Development Project-IVB scheme, which is yet to be approved by Government. In addition, under the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) scheme 27 proposals for Rs. 1561 crore for aggregate length of 1168 km and under National Highway scheme 13 proposals for Rs. 76.22 crore have also been sent by Government of Chhattisgarh, which are at various stages of approval.

(c) No scheme has been approved so far.

Delay in NHAI projects

2870. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various reasons attributable for delays in the various NHAI projects;

(b) whether it is a fact that same or most of the delays in the NHAI projects relate to land acquisition disputes;

(c) if so, whether Government would consider a better compensation mechanism, wherein landowners are compensated with land next to the highways which would significantly appreciate in value, and therefore, reduce risk of disputes; and

(d) if so, by when a decision in this matter is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) There has been some delay in implementation of some projects under NHDP due to various constraints. The major constraints in implementation of the projects are due to delay in land acquisition, utility shifting, obtaining clearances for forest/environment and Road over Bridges, poor performance of some contractors and law & order problem in some states.

(c) and (d) The land for the National Highways is acquired under the provisions of National Highways Act 1956. The compensation to land owners for their land is determined as per the section 3G of National Highways Act.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.